

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 0495

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, WB, GW

SUBJECT: NEW FEDERAL OFFICES IN BERLIN

REF: BONN 04180

1. MISSION HAS RECEIVED SOME ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING NATIONAL CULTURAL FOUNDATION (DEUTSCHE NATIONAL-STIFTUNG FUER KUNST UND KULTUR) IN FORM OF INFORMAL MEMORANDUM PREPARED BY OFFICE OF FONMIN REP IN BERLIN (VON HELMOLT). ACCORDING TO THIS REPORT, CONCEPT HAD ITS ORIGIN IN STATEMENT BY CHANCELLOR IN LAST YEAR'S STATE OF UNION MESSAGE THAT PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EFFORTS TO PROMOTE CULTURE SHOULD BE BROUGHT TOGETHER IN SINGLE GERMAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION. DIRECTOR OF STATE MUSEUMS IN BERLIN MEANWHILE ALLEGEDLY OBTAINED SUPPORT FOR PROPOSAL OF BERLIN GOVERNING MAYOR AND LOCAL POLITICAL PARTIES, WITH UNDERSTANDING TO LOCATE ORGANIZATION IN REICHSTAG BUILDING. PURPOSES OF
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FOUNDATION WOULD BE TO PROMOTE THROUGH RESEARCH,

EXHIBITIONS, ETC., CULTURAL CONTRIBUTIONS OF NATION (BOTH GERMANIES), INCLUDING HISTORY OF GERMAN PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRACY (EXHIBIT AT REICHSTAG BUILDING ALREADY EXISTS), WITH EYE TO INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND EXCHANGE AS WELL. OTHER EXISTING OR NEW INSTITUTIONS WOULD BE BROUGHT INTO ASSOCIATION, INCLUDING BERLIN CULTURAL FESTIVAL, BAYREUTH FESTIVAL, KASSEL DOKUMENTA, ETC. ORGANIZATION WOULD BE ESTABLISHED AS FOUNDATION UNDER PUBLIC LAW WITH FEDERAL PRESIDENT, AS SPONSOR, ACTING AS CHAIRMAN AND FEDERAL CHANCELLOR OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE AS HEAD OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

2. ACCORDING TO INFORMATION ALSO PREPARED BY FONMIN OFFICE AND FURNISHED ALLIED MISSIONS IN UNSIGNED MEMORANDUM, KURATORIUM OF BERLIN SCIENTIFIC CENTER WISHES TO ESTABLISH IN NEAR FUTURE INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS (INTERNATIONALES FORSCHUNGSINSTITUT FÜR UMWELTFRAGEN). PROPOSAL REPORTEDLY HAS FULL SUPPORT OF BERLIN SENAT AND FEDERAL MINISTERS OF RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY AND INTERIOR. PURPOSES WOULD BE COMPARATIVE SYSTEMS ANALYSIS OF DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES;

COMPARATIVE STUDY OF ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING; AND ADVANCEMENT OF PUBLIC MEASURES IN FIELD THROUGH SCIENTIFIC SUPPORT AND DATA. GROUNDWORK FOR INSTITUTE IS TO BE LAID THIS YEAR. ALTHOUGH NOT INDICATED IN MEMORANDUM, WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT INSTITUTE WOULD WORK CLOSELY WITH NEW FEA, WITH CONSIDERABLE EMPHASIS ON INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION. LIKE PARENT SCIENTIFIC CENTER, IT WOULD BE PRIVATE BODY, ALTHOUGH, AS IS CASE WITH MANY OTHER SIMILAR ORGANIZATIONS, IT WOULD RECEIVE GOVERNMENT SUBSIDIES.

3. COMMENT: PART OF PROBLEM IN KEEPING UP WITH PROPOSALS FOR NEW OFFICIAL AND SEMI-OFFICIAL ORGANIZATIONS IN BERLIN IS THAT THERE ARE NUMBER OF COMPETING LISTS, REFLECTING RESULTS OF WORK OF VARIOUS PLANNING GROUPS, POLITICAL AND APOLITICAL, THAT HAVE BEEN LOOKING FOR NEW WAYS TO SUSTAIN SENSE OF FORWARD MOTION IN CITY--
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MOST SUGGESTIONS SURFACED RECENTLY, FOR EXAMPLE, APPEARED AT LEAST IN GERMINAL FORM IN "BERLIN PERSPECTIVEN," STUDY DRAFTED BY BERLIN SPD ABOUT A YEAR AGO. ALTHOUGH MAJORITY OF IDEAS WILL PROBABLY NOT ADVANCE BEYOND TALKING STAGE, WE HEARTILY AGREE THAT BEST WAY TO KEEP ON TOP OF SITUATION IS TO INSIST, AS BONN GROUP HAS DONE, ON CLOSE CONSULTATION ON ALL PROPOSALS SO THAT FOR ALLIED PURPOSES, EACH CAN BE JUDGED FOR ITS

POLITICAL ACCEPTABILITY.BORG

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